7: Evreux--17 (1611-13) 1864 Tupinamba
116, 211, 861

I asked the old men why they allowed the children to work [AM: building a fort] for they amused the spectators and especially their parents more than they advanced the work, and besides being naked and soft they were in danger of being hurt by some landslide. This was their answer as conveyed by the interpreters, "We are pleased that our children work with us to build this fort so that when they are old they may tell their children about it and these in turn their descendants". "This is the fort that we and our fathers have built for the French, who brought Fathers to make houses for God and defend us against our enemies."

This method to make the children remember what is going on is common in everything. By this they compensate for the lack of writing and they can transmit past events to the centuries to come. Often they speak about the past in their forefathers' time or when they were young and they teach these things to their children as we shall mention later on.

7: Evreux--71 (1611-13) 1864 Tupinamba
116, 153, 211

They have excellent memories and they always remember what they have seen or heard and they can tell you all the circumstances of place, time, and persons, the things said or done. They trace with their fingers in the sand the geography or natural representation of what they want to convey.